

Draft Meeting Notes
LCR MSCP Steering Committee October 26, 2012
Southern Nevada Water Authority

Attending

Vikki Dee Bradshaw	Linda Carbone	Evelyn Erlandsen	Chris Harris
Kirk Koch	Sonja Kokos	Bill Lamb	Janet Monaco
Terry Murphy	Judi Nielsen	Wade Noble	Steve Olson
Theresa Olson	Sharon Opfermann	David Palumbo	McClain Peterson
Tom Pradetto	Sara Price	Ashlee Rudolph	Laura Simonek
John Swett	Laura Vecerina	Eric Volkman	Doyle Wilson

Attending Via Conference Call

Jeff Cochran Maureen George Chris Hayes Joe Vanderhorst Steve Spangle

1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Introductions

The meeting convened at 9:30 a.m. by Chairperson Chris Harris. There were self-introductions of all attending.

Review of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

Approve June 27, 2012 Meeting Notes

The June 27, 2012 meeting notes were approved. (Moved by Wade Noble, seconded by Bill Lamb, and approved by consensus.)

John Swett said that Gregg Garnett, General Biologist in the Restoration Group, was involved in the “A Thousand Invisible Cords” movie that was about cottonwood-willow genetic research conducted by Northern Arizona University and funded with grants from the National Science Foundation and Reclamation.

2. WORK PLANS AND BUDGET

John Swett indicated that the letter from FWS, accepting the Implementation Report, Fiscal Year 2013 Work Plan and Budget, FY2011 Accomplishment Report, was received. John reviewed the FY13 funding schedule and noted both MWD and SDCWA would be using funding credits towards their financial contribution. He also noted that funding was set aside for the Remedial Measures Fund. This funding covers FY11, FY12, and FY13 contributions. He noted that the Remedial Measures Fund Agreements between Reclamation and the States were being finalized.

3. FIVE-YEAR RESEARCH AND MONITORING REPORT (2013-2017)

Eric Volkman and Theresa Olson provided an overview of the Five Year Research and Monitoring Report for 2013-2017. They reviewed the research and monitoring accomplishments from the previous five years (2008-2012) and the proposed research and monitoring priorities for 2013 – 2017. Eric Volkman noted that the focus for research on the fish would be survivability. It was suggested that if research results indicated any potential changes in the conservation measures for the fish that these should be reviewed in the near term. A request was also made to look at mechanisms for getting summary research results together and distributed to others.

John Swett noted that comments on the report had been received at the technical work group meeting and incorporated into the final report.

Resolution 13-001

The Five Year Research and Monitoring Report (2013-2017) was acknowledged by the Steering Committee as final (Moved by Doyle Wilson, seconded by Wade Noble, and adopted by consensus).

4. PROJECT UPDATES

D2: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Habitat Monitoring

John Swett reviewed the southwestern willow flycatcher habitat monitoring requirements required by the Interim Surplus Criteria/Secretarial Implementation Agreement Biological Opinion. Based on new monitoring information, Reclamation recommended to the FWS that this monitoring be discontinued. In a letter dated August 14, 2012, the FWS amended the Biological Opinion allowing for the cessation of that monitoring. John Swett noted that this monitoring would no longer appear as a work task in the Annual Work Plan.

E30: Flat-Tailed Horned Lizard

John Swett noted that the confirmation letter from the FWS, dated May 29, 2012, acknowledging completion of the conservation measure FTHL1 was received. This conservation measure required acquiring and protecting 230 acres of flat-tailed horned lizard habitat.

E17: Topock Marsh Pumping

The FWS, in a letter dated July 2, 2012 provided final confirmation that all requirements contained in AMM2 have been completed.

E28: Yuma East Wetlands

John Swett provided an update on the Land Use Agreement for the Yuma East Wetlands. He indicated that the tribe was still reviewing the agreement. It was requested that the Land Use Agreement be sent out to interested Steering Committee members and a conference call scheduled to provide additional information.

5. STEERING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

John Swett reviewed upcoming meetings for the Steering Committee. There will be a Financial Work Group Conference Call in February, 2013, a Work Group Meeting in March 2013 including a Steering Committee Tour of Lake Mead Fish Work; a Steering Committee Meeting on April 24, 2013, a Work Group Meeting on May 8 and 9, 2013, and a Steering Committee Conference Call on June 26, 2013.

He noted that related conferences included: The Colorado River Water Users (CRWUA) Annual Conference at Caesar's in Las Vegas, NV December 12-14, 2012; The Colorado River Aquatic Biologists (CRAB) Meeting in Laughlin, NV January 9-10, 2013; and, The Colorado River Terrestrial and Riparian (CRTR) Meeting in Laughlin, NV January 29-31, 2013.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

Salt Cedar Beetle Update: Theresa Olson stated that the salt cedar beetle has jumped Lake Mead, is halfway down Lake Mohave, and will be to Topock Marsh soon.

7. SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS

The Steering Committee took action on two items. More information on YEW would be provided by John Swett.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.